## EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY



# DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL

PO Box 116, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102 Phone: 573/526-9100 Fax: 573/634-7966 E-mail: mosema@mail.mo.gov



# Situation Report Winter Storm January 19, 2007, 12pm

#### **UPDATED INFORMATION IS IN BOLD**

#### **SUMMARY**

A series of severe winter storms swept across Missouri on January 12, causing heavy damage throughout the state. An area from Joplin to St. Louis along the I-44 corridor was the heaviest hit. A second round of freezing precipitation took place on Saturday, and a third round moved through the state on Sunday. More snow is forecast to return to the state this weekend. The National Weather Service (NWS) has issued a winter storm watch for much of this weekend in many of the same counties that were affected by the events last weekend.

On Monday, the President authorized Public Assistance (PA) from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to local governments and qualifying non-profit agencies for debris removal and certain emergency protective measures (Categories A & B). The following counties were included in the disaster declaration: Barry, Barton, Callaway, Camden, Christian, Cole, Crawford, Dade, Dallas, Dent, Franklin, Gasconade, Greene, Hickory, Jasper, Laclede, Lawrence, Lincoln, Maries, McDonald, Miller, Montgomery, Newton, Osage, Phelps, Polk, Pulaski, St Charles, St Clair, St Louis, Stone, Warren, Webster, Wright, and the City of St Louis. Additional counties may be added at a later date following preliminary damage assessments, which are expected to begin next week.

As of Wednesday afternoon, officials reported 119 shelters were open throughout the state, with a total estimated population of more than 4,300 people.

On Wednesday, state officials set up the Missouri Information and Referral Hotline to coordinate and distribute donations, volunteers and to provide information on local relief efforts. **The number is 888-377-2100, and will be staffed from 9am-9pm daily.** 

#### **Fatalities**

Location	Fatalities	Notes
Dade County	1	Traffic-related
Dallas County	2	2 possible CO deaths
Harrison County	1	Traffic-related
Lawrence County	1	CO-related
Jasper County	1	CO related
Jackson County	3	3 traffic-related
Johnson County	1	Traffic-related
Newton County	1	CO related
St Francois County	1	Traffic-related
STATE TOTAL	12	7 traffic-related; 5 CO-related

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#### **Power restoration**

Officials report more than **77,000 customers statewide** are without power as a result of the storm. **Rural electric coops report 35,000 customers** without power. **Empire Electric reports 24,000 customers** in southwest Missouri are without power. **Springfield City Utilities reports 18,000 customers** still without power. Power was restored to nearly all AmerenUE customers on Thursday. Power for Aquila customers was restored on Tuesday in west-central Missouri. In some areas, officials are warning people to be prepared for power outages lasting another 7-10 days.

#### **County Reports**

Barry County—Officials report several thousand residents were still without power Thursday. Power has just about been fully restored in Monett. Ten people affected by carbon monoxide Wednesday, with eight of them taken to the hospital for treatment. Eight shelters were open on Wednesday, with a population of about 125 people. About 600 meals were served at shelters Thursday. Health and welfare checks for residents in rural areas are nearing completion. Continuing to have an adequate fuel supply is a matter of concern.

**Barton County**—One shelter was open Wednesday with a population of 40 people. All power is back on, roads are clear, and residents have returned home.

**Camden County**—Two shelters were open Wednesday with a population of 20 people.

**Cedar County**—Officials reported all shelters were closed Tuesday night. Power has been restored to Stockton and most other affected areas.

**Christian County**—Officials estimated 3,000 homes were without power on Thursday. Three shelters were open on Thursday, with a total population of 40 people. Health and welfare checks were underway on Thursday throughout the county.

**Crawford County**—Two shelters were open Wednesday with a population of 21 people.

**Dade County**—Officials reported widespread power outages, which affected residents in Arcola, Dadeville, Everton, Greenfield, and Lockwood. Trees, power lines, and telephone lines are down on roads all over the county. Four warming centers were open on Thursday. Boil water orders remain in effect in four jurisdictions. **Meals for about 75 people were served at shelters Thursday. More debris cleanup crews are expected to arrive Saturday.** 

Dallas County—Officials report today power outages still affecting a large part of the county. One shelter now open in the county, with 300 meals served at each meal Thursday. Health & welfare checks should be completed today. Agricultural water drops scheduled to take place today. The county is requesting assistance for continuing feeding operations.

**Franklin County**—Officials report13,000 customers were without power early in the storm. One shelter was open Sunday night with a population of 10 people. Two warming centers were in operation on Monday.

**Gasconade County**—Officials reported power outages to about 5,000 people early in the storm. Two shelters were open Wednesday with a population of 25 people.

Greene County—Officials reported nearly 40,000 homes without power Thursday across the county. Six shelters were open on Thursday, with a population of 668 people. Roads are now reported to be clear. Authorities have been conducting health and welfare checks. Fuel availability situation has improved greatly. There has been an increase in the number of structure fires, as power as been restored. Agricultural water drops scheduled to take place today.

**Henry County**—Officials reported one shelter was open was Wednesday, with a population under 10 people.

Hickory County—Officials reported six shelters were open on Wednesday, with a total population of 119 people.

**Jasper County**—Officials report a death in Joplin is related to carbon monoxide poisoning. **An estimated 1,800 homes and businesses were without power on Thursday**. One shelter was open on Thursday with a population of 30

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people. The shelter site is being moved to the Carthage Salvation Army office today. Health & welfare checks are continuing in the county.

Laclede County—Officials report about 2,800 rural customers still without power Thursday. About 75% of the power is back on in Richland and power almost fully restored in Crocker. Three shelters were open Thursday with a population of 75 people. Volunteers are helping with EOC staffing, debris removal and other needs. Health & welfare checks are continuing today.

Lawrence County—Officials estimated 25,000 homes remain without power Thursday in rural areas of the county, with about half the power restored in communities. 10 shelters are operational, with three special needs centers and two warming centers. Health and welfare checks are continuing today throughout the county.

**Lincoln County**—Officials report significant power outages in Old Monroe. 54 people from a nursing home in Moscow Mills were evacuated to a shelter.

**Maries County**—Officials report power has been restored to most people in Vienna and Belle, although power was still out to 25% of the county on Wednesday. A boil-water order was issued for residents in Vienna on Tuesday. Two shelter were open on Thursday, with population under 10 people. Two warming centers were also being operated on Wednesday. Authorities are conducting health and welfare checks on residents in rural areas.

McDonald County—Officials report about 5,000 customers still without power Thursday. Debris has been cleared on nearly all county roads.. Three shelters were open Thursday with a total population of 265. Officials report a need for hygiene products at those sites. 17 people have been treated for CO poisoning. Health & welfare checks are nearly complete as of today.

**Miller County**—Officials reported about 5,000 customers without power on Wednesday, mostly in the southern part of the county. Two shelters were open on Thursday, but population figures were not immediately available.

Newton County—Officials report 20,000 customers are without power Thursday and one fatality due to C.O. poisoning. Operating six shelters for 366 people Thursday. Feeding stations are being set up today and food needs are being met. Health & welfare checks and debris cleanup operations are continuing today.

**Phelps County**—Officials report good progress on power restoration efforts in Rolla and St James. All warming centers have closed in St James. Debris removal is underway.

Polk County—Officials report most of rural part of the county is still without power today. The National Guard went to 321 homes Thursday while conducting health and welfare checks. Shelters remain open, but most of the people are just coming in for meals. Boil water order is in effect in Morrisville.

**Pulaski County**—Officials reported about 4,500 homes without power Wednesday. Boil water orders were in effect in Richland and Crocker. Some fuel shortages still being reported. On Tuesday, officials said the power infrastructure in Richland had been destroyed by the storm. Ten shelters were open Wednesday with a total population of nearly 600 people.

**St. Charles County**—Officials reported less than 20 homes without power on Wednesday. All shelters were closed on Wednesday. The EOC discontinued operations on Tuesday. A debris removal hotline has been set up.

St Louis City—Officials reported no shelters opened and normal Fire/Police operations. They continue to monitor the situation.

**St. Louis County**—Officials reported 2,000 customers without power on Wednesday. There is no longer a demand for shelters. EOC has de-activated.

Stone County—Power is back on in most areas and roads are open. One shelter was open near Hurley Thursday with a population of six people. Some house-to-house checks are going on today in northern part of the county.

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**Warren County**—Officials report 1,300 people without power early in the storm. Warming centers were opened Sunday night.

Webster County—Officials report 5,000 homes without power Thursday. One shelter open Thursday in Marshfield with a population of 38 people overnight. A warming/feeding station is being opened today in Elkland and a warming center is being opened in Niangua. Boil water order remains in effect in Diggins due to the power outage there. Officials report two CO cases requiring hospitalization. 95% of roads now passable.

**Wright County**—Officials reported hundreds of people were without power in areas north of Hartville. One warming center was open on Tuesday.

#### **State Actions**

Governor Blunt issued Executive Order 07-02 on Saturday declaring a State of Emergency in response to the winter storm. He also signed Executive Order 07-03 that same day activating the National Guard to assist with the emergency response. On Monday, the Governor requested a Federal Expedited Disaster Declaration for 34 Counties and the City of St. Louis. On Wednesday, Governor Blunt dispatched a team representing various state agencies to Springfield to make contact with local officials in affected areas in southwest Missouri. On Thursday, team members made contact with local officials in Dallas, Dade, Lawrence, McDonald, Newton, and Polk Counties. More visits are taking place today in an effort to assist local officials with their response needs.

**State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA)** is operating the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) through 11pm Thursday. Staff will be manning the SEOC from 7am to 11pm daily beginning Friday. Those needing assistance after hours should contact the SEMA Duty Officer at (573) 751-2748. SEMA is also scheduling visits to start damage assessment with local officials next week.

**Missouri National Guard (MONG)** has about 500 people assisting missions ranging from debris removal, to health and safety checks and transporting generators, cots, food, and blankets.

**Missouri State Highway Patrol (MSHP)** reports seven people have died from weather-related traffic accidents. The latest accident occurred in St Francois County, where a woman was killed when her vehicle was swept off a low-water crossing by flood-waters.

Missouri State Water Patrol (MSWP) is assisting with health and welfare checks in Dallas and Hickory Counties.

**Division of Fire Safety** is working requests for fire mutual aid and Incident Management Teams as needed. The State Fire Marshal reminds all jurisdictions to be careful with 1). Exceeding capacities, which would hinder prompt evacuation in case of fire at shelters, warming centers, and feeding centers. 2). Where use of generators is involved, make sure that they are properly vented and the fuel source is not leaking creating additional hazards.

**Office of Administration (OA)** has delivered over 100 generators throughout the affected area as well as 11 palettes of Meals-Ready –to- Eat to the affected area. OA is checking on property damage at State properties.

**Missouri Dept of Conservation (MDC)** is assisting with debris clearance activities in Greene, Laclede, Lawrence and Polk Counties.

Dept of Corrections (DOC) is assisting with transportation of donated goods and equipment across the affected area.

**Dept of Health and Senior Services (DHSS)** is working on nursing home power restoration and checking for special-needs population health issues. The DSR is monitoring and assisting with health related issues.

**Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT)** is responding throughout the State. Several maintenance facilities are without power. Roads conditions are improving, but watching for re-freezing as temperatures drop below freezing.

Dept of Mental Health (DMH) is coordinating mental health providers and services across the affected area.

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**Dept of Natural Resources (DNR)** has issued waivers on landfill restrictions and open burning for storm generated yard waste. Energy Center staff is working with fuel supply issues in the impacted counties. DNR is also providing assistance with debris clearance in the affected area, as well as working on public drinking water facility issues and wastewater issues.

**Department of Social Services (DSS)** is helping staff shelters with Division of Children Services staff where needed in several Missouri counties. DSS staff are also coordinating delivery of bulk food and water to agencies within the affected area.

### **Volunteer Agency Actions**

American Red Cross (ARC) has been ordering and coordinating shipments of additional cots and blankets for people in the affected area. Local jurisdictions needing hot meals can contact the Red Cross about their availability. The organization is also assisting with coordination of food shipments to the affected area, as needed.

The Salvation Army (TSA) is assisting with feeding and shelter operations throughout the state. TSA is now assisting local response needs in Greene, Hickory, Jasper and Polk counties. Its Carthage office is now being used as the shelter in Jasper County.

**AmeriCorps** has deployed 35 volunteers in Missouri. Teams are active is the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC), as well as Barry, **Dade**, Dallas, Greene, Laclede, Lawrence, Polk, and Pulaski Counties. Volunteers are supporting operations in shelters and EOCs as well as supplying generators across the affected area. Volunteers are also staffing a donation hotline (888-377-2100).

#### Weather

The National Weather Service (NWS) forecast calls for daytime highs today in the 30s. NWS in Springfield has issued a winter storm watch starting for Saturday afternoon and into early Sunday in much of southern and western Missouri. Snow accumulations are currently forecast to be around 3-5" along and north of I-44, and slightly less to the south of that line. This area includes many of the locations impacted by the ice storm last weekend. Minor sleet or ice accumulations are possible across the south. Winds are also expected to increase as this system moves through the area Saturday night. Temperatures are not expected to climb above the freezing mark at least through the weekend.

## **Point of Contact:**

Calls to the SEOC can be made at 573-526-9100. This number will be staffed from 7am-11pm daily. After-hours calls should be made to the SEMA Duty Officer at (573) 751-2748.

Persons affected by the storm who need information on relief efforts in their area can call the Missouri Information and Referral Hotline at 888-377-2100. This number will be staffed from 9am-9pm daily.

This Situation Report and other storm-related information may be viewed at the following web address: http://sema.dps.mo.gov/Situation%20Reports.htm